AFFAIRS IN WASHINGTON.

The Case of the Privateer Gen. Armstrong.

Important Resolution Relative to Reciprocity Treaties.

THE FRENCH SPOLIATION CLAIMS.

INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE,

&c.,

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

Senate. Washington, Jan. 26, 1855.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26, 1855.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The PRESIDENT protem. stated that this was private bill day, and that the unanimous consent of the Senate would be required for the transaction of any other business.

Mr. HUNTER, (dem.) of Va., asked unanimous consent for the purpose of taking up the Army Appropriation

Mr. Perrir, (dem.) of Ind., said he would give his unamimous consent if Mr. Hunter would allow him to have one little bill passed.

Mr. HUNTER said the consent must be unconditional or

Mr. Perrit—Then I can't consent. The bill for the relief of Captain Philip F. Voorhies, of the U. S. Navy, was then postponed until Friday next

on motion of Mr. Mallory.

The bill setting the claims of the legal heirs of Richard W. Meade, deceased, was also postponed until Friday next on the motion of Mr. Stuart.

THE PRIVATEER GENERAL ARMSTRONG. The bill for the relief of the claimants of the private

armed brig General Armstrong was taken up.

Mr. WELLER, (dem.) of Cal., offered a substitute, authorizing the Secretary of State to adjust the claims of Samuel C. Reid, the owners, officers and crew of rmstrong, and pay what is due, not exceeding one red and thirty-one thousand, six hundred dollars, the sum demanded of the Portuguese government.

ment of the claimants of the Armstrong.

Mr. STUART, (dem.) of Mich., opposed the bill.

The debate was continued by Messra. Brown, Bayard,
Cass and Houston for, and Messra. Fesseaden and Dawson against the bill, as amended, when it passed by a
vote of 22 against 17, Mr Benjamin voting in its favor in
order to move a reconsideration.

order to move a reconsideration.

The merita of this case were submitted in 1851 to Prince Napoleon, as arbitrator between the American and Portuguese governments, the former having made a demand against the latter, for remuneration for the loss of the brig General Armstrong in Fayal, by an attack of the British fleet.

Napoleon decided that Portugal was not liable, and the case came before Congress for settlement.

Senate adjourned to Monday.

House of Representatives. WASHINGTON, Jan. 26, 1855.

THE DANISH SOUND DUTIES. Mr. FULLER, (dem.) of Me., from the Committee on rce, reported a joint resolution authorizing the President to give the requisite notice for terminating the reciprocity treaties of commerce and navigation, in cases where the terms stipulated for their continuance have expired, with such Powers and States as in his opinion fest illiberality in their commercial intercourse with

the United States.

Mr. HAVEN, (whig) of N. Y., said this ought to pass, to get rid of so

to get rid of some onerous impositions on our commerce.

The resolution was passed.

Mr. Boyck, (dem) of S. C., moved to reconsider the

Mr. FULLER said the resolution was referred to the Committee on Commerce a year ago, and was in accordance with the views of the State Department. Its object is to enable notice to be given to the Danish government, with which there is now a treaty in operation, imposing onerous Sound dues on our commerce going in-to the Baltic and Elsinore. Under the language of the existing treaty it is considered the President is not aufhorized to take the initiative without the authority of

Mr. BAYLY, (dem.) of Va., hoped Mr. Boyce's motion would prevail; he wanted the resolution sent to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. They had already the subject before them. It was one not so free from doubt

as a casual observer might suppose.

The House refused to reconsider the vote by which

the resolution was passed.

Mr. Lane (dem.), of Oregon, made a long personal ex-planation, saying he would never consent to make treane of the tribes of Oregen, until the murderers among them of innocent white victims shall be

The bill for the relief of Samuel A. Belden & Co., re

funding the duties on goods confiscated in Mexico, wh ed by a vote of 82 against 88.
The House went into committee on
The Fusion SPOLIATION BILL.
Mr. Bayly's substitute, being the Senate bill as amended, was considered. that country was in our military possession, was reject-

Mr. Bayly's substitute, being the Senate bill as amended, was considered.

Mr. Leychen, (dem.) of Va., moved to strike out the words 'ann interest thereon' from the following proviso:—'In all cases of transfer or assignment, except gifts or donations, so assignee shall be entitled to receive an amount beyond the consideration paid and interest thereon.' He said as the clause stood it would result to the benefit of speculators, who have gone into the market to drive hard bargains—mea who get their fiving by grinding the faces of the poor, while the original holders will not reap the benefit of the interest. Mr. Barnt, (dem.) of Va., replied that this provision was put into the bill by that class who are fighting the assignees. He would not agree to the principle that an assignee who has paid his money shall be raveed on the face of his bond, and then deprived of the advantage of interest.

against 80.

Mr. Sarrn, (dem.) of Va., moved to strike out the entire proviso. He said he would proceed with his explanation when the gentleman from South Carolina should cease his conversation.

Mr. Ous, (dem.) of S. C., (spiritedly in response)—The gentleman is as much in the habit of interrupting as

anybody.

Mr. Smru-All I ask is, that you do not talk under

Mr. PMITH—All I ask is, that you do not me.

Mr. Orn.—You ought to adopt the same course for the government of your own conduct.

The Chairman demanded order.

Mr. Smith—I don't understand why the goutleman should get into such a pet.

Mr. Smith's reason for moving to strike out the population of the processors, it underless to interfere with the legal mights of purchasers, which they had no right to do. It was gratuitous in his colleague (Mr. Letcher) to say that assigness ground the face of the poor. It may be they saved immediate creditors from absolute want by buy-ling their claims.

assigness ground the face of the poor. It may be they sarved immediate creditors from absolute want by buying their claims.

Mr. Chanus, (dem.) of N. C., always thought the gentleman legislated for the many, and not for the few. Now, so far from this, he now would benefit the class who ought not to be legislated for in this or any otter government. He did not know the fact personally, but he learned that many of those claims had been nawked about, and ten, fifteen or twenty thousand dollars worth bought for three, five or ten dollars.

Mr. Sarris, of Va., saked, do you know a single case of the kind? Is it right to refer to that common remor?

Mr. Walsin, (dem.) of N. Y.—Will the gentleman gives:

Mr. Caston Cheerfully, as I obtained the information

Mr. CRAIDE—Cheerfully, as I obtained the information from the gentleman.

Mr. Walen—I know Andrew Fisher sold his claim to a Wall street broker for three per cent.

Mr. CRAIDE resumed, saying land sharks have resorted to all sorts of means to have this bill passed, not for the benefit of the descendants of those who suffered by French spoliators, but for themselves, who live by speculation on the misfortunes of others; therefore the proviso should not be stricken out.

Mr. LETCHER—My colleague, (Mr. Smith.) regretted, I understood, to speak of this, as a matter of speculation. The original claimants slumber in their graves. Where are the widows, and orphans? Are there any here asking for this money? (Numerous responses, "Yes.") If so, why do you provide interest to men who chiseled them out of the amount?

Mr. BLDS. (dem.) of Ohio, thought it wrong to assume that speculators are pressing this bill. The House had no right to discriminate as to the holders of claims.

Mr. Smith's amendment was rejected. Several other amendments were offered and voted down.

Mr. Walgur, (dem.) of Miss, made an ouslaught on the claims of agents, hoping they would not receive one dime under the bill.

Mr. McMilliam, (dem.) of Va., though oupo-ed to that Mr. Walkiliam, (dem.) of Va., though oupo-ed to that

dime under the bill.

Mr. McMullen, (dem) of Va., though opposed to the bill, defended the claims of agents. There might be a few noverthy ones, but from personal two vietges, the knew some to be as honorable as any gentleman on told

out concluding the subject, the committee rose

Our Washington Correspo Washington, Jan. 24, 1854.

Gov. Seymour and the Prench Mission—The Bounty Land

Bill—Something about Newspapers, &c., &c. Ex-Governor Seymour, who is now in the city, remain here, it is presumed, at the desire of the administration to await the issue of Judge Mason's illness, or his resig nation, which will immediately follow his recovery. It is understood that the ex-Governor received the first tender of the musion to France, but declined it, preferring the gubernatorial chair of his native State, which

he filled at the time.

The Bounty Land bill, introduced by Senator Brodhead of Pennsylvania, will go through the Senate this week "with a rush." It is the order of the day, it would seem, until some definite action is had upon it. An amendment submitted by Judge Butler, giving 160 acres of land to the widows of revolutionary soldiers, was unanimously concurred in. The old heroes of 1812 will be fleeced out of at least one-third or one-half of this bounty of the government by a horde of speculating the new law of Congress.

I can indulge in a spotrive vein rather than treat the matter seriously, when I refer to an attempt which has been recently made by a little penny paper published in this city, to choke off all correspondence with papers at a distance, and to prevent the writers of such from enjoying the few priv leges and benefits which from the individual of the property of the prevent the writers of such from enjoying the few priv leges and benefits which from time inmemorial have been accorded to them. There is a petty jeslousy displayed by this tiny twinkler towards the mammoth press of the country, (the Naw York Hasato among the number), which savors strongly of an attempt to acquire consequence by providing their notice; and having so far failed to do this, it has "pitched into" their correspondents and ventures to consurce everything emanating from them which is not strictly in accordance with its own views, and which does not evine the same disposition "to crook the pregnant hinges of the press, where thiff may follow fawning." An attack upon any measure of the administration or its subordinates, however deserving of rebuke, gives this little chronicler of passing events an opportunity, which is gladly availed of, to "spread itself" upon its own perfect and entire allegiance (obsequiousness would be the better term) to the powers that be, and for this duty a recompets is sure to follow, for they are even now in the enjoyment of a government advertisement covering two sides of an immense "extra," and one page of their regular edition. Further comment is superfluous; but I must add that I have yet to learn that the managers of theatres, concerts, balls and other entertainments what deemed it proper, in one single instance, to act upon the suggestions of this Sir Oracle, in abridging the liberties and privileges of the regular real sentiments with regard to the acts of the President or Cabinet to soit the whim and caprices of any one mush less this "mud tender" to the government organ. An Irishman once said, that in this I can indulge in a spotrive vein rather than treat the matter seriously, when I refer to an attempt which has

newspapers professing to be the guardians of this inestimable boon the better for themselves and all concerned.

The Washingtonians have cause to congratulate themselves upon the efficiency and solity of the members of the committee on the Discrict in the House. Among their number is the Hou. Issae Teller, of the Second Congressional district, New York, who is very realous in the promot on of the true interests of the people, and who is destined, by the uniform urbanity of his deportment, and the consistency, seal and propriety of his public career, to become one of the most popular and influential members of the House. Mr. Teller is a new member, but it requires no prophetic agency to discern in him the elements of a useful legislator, in calculating which something else must enter into the computation besides mere intellectual superiority. The Little Falls bridge, of recent construction, under the supervision of this committee, secures great advantages to the people of the surrounding country, in the safe and expeditious transit of merchandise which it affords.

In the political market, Sam Houston's stock for the succession seems to be uppermost at present, associated with George Law, of New York, for Vice President, on the Know Nothing ticket.

Washington, Jan. 25, 1855.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25, 1855. Skields-Gen. Rusk's Reply-Prench Spoliation Bill-Its Provisions and Probable Passage-Ridiculous Posi-tion of Secretary McClelland—His Nessage Laid on the Table—Gon. P. H. Bell not Going to Central America.

While the Army bill was under discussion in the Senate yesterday, Mr. Shields, of Illinois, stated his objections to the appropriations for arsenals in Texas, New Mexico, California and Oregon, and denounced such appropriations as extravagant, unnecessary, and leading to specu-lation. This declaration astonished his friends in the Senate, as they had been led to regard him as the great gant? The appropriation was only for \$268,000 for Texas, New Mexico, California, Oregon, and some several other States. More than this amount is frequently appropriated tor a single custom house, court house or post office. Why unuccessary? This blow at the army service came very unexpectedly from the gallant General, who is supposed to know the mecessities for arsenals to protect our arms and ammunition, in order to preserve them in peace, or render them effective in time of war. General Rusk stated in reply, that along a thousand miles of frontier in Texas, exposed to deprecations from hostile Indians, the United States had not a reof to shelter the arms and ammunition of a single company of troops; nor did he think the new States should be made to expiste the sins of the old, if speculations that marked appropriations for post office Why unnecessary? This blow at the army

roof to shelter the arms and ammunition of a single company of froops; nor did he think the new States should be made to expiate the sins of the old, if speculations had marked appropriations of arsenals in them. The French Spoliation bill will pass the House of Representatives under full sail and richly freighted, lacking neither wind or ballast. Col. Beaton occupied an hour yesterday in opposition to the bill, during which he assailed most violently the claims must so beneficiaries under its provisions. He charged that hy a system of miarepresentation the claims had been bought up with five cents or less on the dollar, and the present holiers were now holding on with bull-dog pertinacity to the skirts of Congress for the full amount of claims likely to be allowed under this bill seem to be very indefinitely ascertained. Some friends of the bill say \$5,000,000 will cover the entire amount, while others calculate that double the amount will not pay them, even without interest. If interest be allowed as claimed, then fifty millions would not satisfy the appropriation under this bill, and a new issue of United States stock will be rendered necessary to meet it.

The President of the Senate was astonished a few to meet it.

The President of the Senate was astonished a few mornings since at the reception of a "message from the Secretary of the Interior," and was sorely puzzle to know what disposition to make of it. He hesitated to lay it before the Senate, as he knew it would subject its author to ridicule, and not be considered by that body. What business had Secretary McClelland to send messages to Congress? Ignorant, however, of his true position in the government, he did send a message to the United States Senate, enclosing estimates for his department of the government. The President of the Senate ventured to lay this extraordinary "state paper" before the Senate, and it was soon consigned to the table with so much as being read.

An item is going the rounds of the newspaper press, to the effect that the Hon. P. H. Bell, the present able and indefatigable representative from Western Texas, designs joining the Kinney expedition for Central America. I am authorized to say that Governor Hell has no such idea, although he holds the expedition in high estimation, and has every confidence in the judgment and ability of Col. H. I. Kinney.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25, 1855. Very Remarkable and Curious News-Dudley Mann vs. Marcy-Effects of the Herald's Publication of Dudley Mann's Private Instructions to the President-A Bomi shell in the Cabinet—Marcy Indigmantly asking Ques-tions—Dulley Mann's Musion to the Ostend Convention —Hore he Contriced it in Spile of Marcy—What's to be A very great interest has followed the publication in

the Heasth of Mann's two letters. Forney remarked to a New York gentleman, that "if Marcy could stand this, nothing short of a dismissal coult get him out of the Catinet." Every telling point in Mann's correspondence that can be selved upon to Marcy's disadvantage is treely made use of by his enemies. He is sympathized with i his recent discovery of being made to play second to his suistant in matters of grave importance. Here is the reasoning. Mann, it is now shown, suggested and car-ried through the new diplomatic costume. Marry issued the orders, and received the ridicule. Mann advised the ber million lean; Marcy opposed it, and was beaten Mann was the champion, and received the President' approval of the filibustering scheme against Europe and in favor of Cuba; here alone Marcy was successful "Marcy," says Parney, "can't got over the fact that, although holding the post of Sorretary, Mann has pos-essed the confidence of the President, and obtained favorable consideration for every important measure re t is thought that no explanation the President may give will be settlefactory to Marcy. His (Fleree's) treachery to too apparent -- the offence too serious to be explained

A rather heated feterelay took place but a few days duce between the Prosident and Murry, which is now understood to have arisen from unwarrantable libertitaken by Marcy, with duties properly belonging to the Secretary's department. This interference, it is alleged, has been going on for some time, and beace the desire of Mr. Mann for the abolishment of the Deputy's office, which he pronounces wholly unnecessary. Mr. Guthrie expresses surprise at the character of the influence that has too evidently been governing the acts of the Presi-dent. He thinks it a matter reflecting upon the whole Cabinet. Mr. Benton remarked, when spoken to upon

dent. He thinks it a matter reflecting upon the whole Cabinet. Mr. Benton remarked, when spoken to upon the subject, that he doubted the genuiness of the letters, as their confidential importance must have been so apparent to the possessor of them that their publicity could not have been entertained. It is whispered in and about the departments that Cushing can tell how the Herald came in possession of this correspondence. It is thought to be another move to get Marcy cut of the way before the return of Buchanan, and if so, it promises better than any scheme that has yet been started. The friends of Marcy say that he will ask of the President explanations, and be not surprised to hear that this request will be followed up by like demands from others of the Cabinet. Several of these gentlemen feel a warm sensitiveness upon the subject showing, as is alleged, that, while the President was receiving their counsel, he had resolved to be governed in the end by the advice of a clerk. Further revelations are expected to follow. A gentleman in the Treasury Department remarked this morning that the HERLLED had but opened the subject—that it promised a rich harvest in the end, and that Mr. Cushing would be found a principal figure in the scene. The question seriously asked is, can Marcy longer remain in the Cabinet and continue to play the part of an autematon for the annuesment of his deputy and the President? The answer can only be guessed at.

POSTSCRIPT-FOUR HOURS LATER. subject matter of my previous despatch. This information comes in a most direct manner, without further particulars. It is now ascertained that it was at Mann's

tion comes in a most direct manner, without further particulars. It is now ascertained that it was at Mann's suggestion he was sent to France, with verbal instructions from the President to hasten with Spain, through Soule, our immediate possession of Cuba. The policy of this step was one of the questions discussed at the Otende convention, and unanimously voted down. Marcy did not know two days before his departure from Washington that Mann was to leave the United States, and until he had sailed he was not aware that he had taken passage for France. Here again the management of this whole affair, from its commencement to its close, was left in the hands of Mann. The secresy of his departure and mission was deemed necessary; for, if known, it was certain to have encountered the opposition of Marcy.

All the explanation that gentleman received for this extraordinary step of the President, upon the discovery that Mann had gone abroad on government business, was, that upon marure reflection he, the President, was thought proper that Mr. Mann should be sent abroad to examine into the state of Suropean affairs generally, and toought proper that Mr. Mann should be sent abroad to examine into the state of Suropean affairs generally, and toought proper that Mr. Mann should be sent abroad to examine into the state of Suropean affairs generally, and to counsel with our ministers upon the various important subjects which they might have under consideration. The copies of his instructions were asked for by Mr. Marcy, but to his surprise he learnt that he had only received verbal orders. It will be recollected that for some time the subject of sending to Europe a diplomatic mission of three persons was freely spoken of by the press as being in contemplation by the President, Marcy was opposed to the scheme, but eventually gave way to the united wish of the Cabinet; the names were to be selected of those to fill the mission. Marcy and a majority of the Cabinet united upon George M. Dallas, Howell Cobb, and Martin Van Buren.

The French Spoliation Claums—Great Ability of the De-bate—Probable Passage of the Bill—A Substitute to be Offered-The New Army Bill-Opinions of Army Officers-Governor of Virginia-Hon. James French Strother, dc., dc.
The French Spoliation bill was the subject of debate

again yesterday in the House of Representatives, and great interest was manifested by members inside and cutside the bar As I said yesterday, the bill has a ballast which regulates its sailing to a nicety. Mr. Orr, of the question, and, by his eloquence and sound legal argument, he made the friends of the bill tremble for its safety. Judge Eayly's speech in defence of the bill is a specimen of rare Virginia eloquence and close logical reasoning. It was one of his greatest efforts, and has cost him great labor and research. If the bill passes—and that it will there is but little doubt—it will be owing greatly to the powerful induence of the masterly effor of Judge Bayly. I learn that Mr. Faulsner will offer a substitute for the bill, which provides that the Secretary of the Treasury shall investigate these claims, ascertain the actual amount, and report to Congress—without making any appropriation at this time to meet them. He thinks we should first ascertain the amount of these claims—particularly as some fix the amount at \$5,000,000, ond some as high as \$40,000,000, without interest—and after ascertaining the amount, then make the necessary provision for their payment.

ooo, some at \$10,000,000, and some as high as \$10,000,000, without interest—and after ascertaining the amount, then make the necessary provision for their payment. It may be that a large issue of government stock will become necessary to meet these caims.

Generals Jesup, Gibson, Totten, and Colonel Craig, appeared before the Committee on Military Affairs yeaterday, and gave their views on the new army bill. They do not concur in the amendments proposed by General Scott, but approve the bill as reported by the chairman of the committee.

Hop. James French Strather is been assessed in the committee.

of the committee.

Hon. James French Strother is here, receiving the congratulations of friends on his prospect of being the Know Nothing candidate for Governor in Virginia. Col. Strother is as much pleased and flattered by this as

hood is already determined upon, and it is said he will lead Mr. Wise by 20,000 votes. This must be an over estimate, though Wise's defeat is considered fixed, even by his best friends in Washington.

CORRESPONDENCE OF OTHER PAPERS.
[Correspondence of the North American]

Washington, Jan. 24, 1855.

The Turiff and the Secretary of the Treasury—the Senate Know Nothing Cuncus—The Kinney Expedition.

Inoticed on Saturday the laborious efforts of the Secretary of the Treasury to obviate the crushing effect of the diminution of revenue upon his own and all other projects for the reduction of the tar.ff. Since then the honorable head of the fiscal department has been honored with calls from the advance guard of the free trade division of the demoracy, with representations to the effect that if he would come down a few rounds of the ladder of protection on which, according to their views, he has perched himself, they would support his recommendation. The Secretary of the Treasury is strong upon a negative. He, therefore, very emphatically said no. If, therefore, the democrats proceed to action on this in portant question, they will be delivered of only an abortion. The result of these interviews is one of the very best signs of the day. They assure a respite for the national is dustry, and furnish ground for hope that the proclivity of the party to destructiveness will be held in abeyance suntil a conservative majority shall take posession of the House.

The Senate has postponed action on legislative measures, in order to be left at more perfect breadom to conspire against the Know Nothings. The adjournment of the caucus of Monday morning fast was to Thursday, tomorrow, and not to Wednosday, this day, as I supposed. A very deep sensation has been caused by the announcement that this subject has been taken up is the secretary and the service of the word of the control of the form of the first of the service of the s

The Prench Spotiation Bill—The Reads Know Nothing Coucus.

Coucus.

The opinion is confidently expressed this morning that the French Spotiation bill will pass the House, but, at the same time, the impression is abroad that if the bill should pass both houses there is still a breaker ahead in the shape of a Presidential veto. Whether this impression is a presidential veto.

sion has been made to dampen the ardor of friends, and stimulate the exertions of foes, you in Philadetphia are as capable of judging as we who are in closer proximity to the White House. The defeat of the French Spoliation bill, whether by Congress or by veto, will not improve the prospects of the Texas creditor.

The democratic members of the Senate have had several caucuses in regard to the Know Nothing question. A series of resolutions has been unanimously adopted. The only question which now arises is as to the expediency or necessity of publishing these resolutions.

Among the distinguished strangers now in Washing-ton is ex-Governor Bigler, of your State. He is stopping at Willard's.

at Willard's.

The Case of Capt. Gibson.

Gentlemen—in relation to the letter which appeared in your paper of yesterday, purporting to have been written by me to a certain Excellency, I have to remark that I am now in communication with the government in reresence to that paper and other matters in connection with its recent transmission to Congress, which will shortly be before the public, and present an entirely different aspect of the affair. Very respectfully,

WALTER M. GIBSON.

Washington, January 24, 1855.

End of the Carnival.

THE SLEIGHING AND THE THAW—NEW YORK AS IT WAS AND AS IT IS—SPECULATIONS AND PROPHECIES ON THE WEATHER, ETC.

All our prognostications in regard to the continuance of the carnival have been set at naught by the thaw and there was a remarkable decrease in the number of and there was a remarkable decrease in the number of sleighs. The city presented a strange contrast to its appearance on Thursday, when its whole population appeared to be out of doors, participating in the exciting pleasures of the sleigh ride, or as spectators enjoying the sights and scenes. Broadway in particular, which was in the height of its glory, is now quite crest failen, and the few sleighs that are still to be seen in it are but very poorly patronized. The emilibuses have once more asserted their supresserved. asserted their supremacy, and the "tintinabulation of the bella" is lost in the rumbling and the jumbling of the stages. New York has once more returned to its former condition, and unless the street contractors be-stir themselves with more than their usual energy, we will soon be in another deluge of mad like that which

threatened to engulph the city a week or two since.

The avenues, too, which were full of life and merriment, are now almost deserted, except by a few who are determined not to give up while there is a particle of snow left. There may be some consolation for them in the prophecy of the clerk of the weather that a severe frost will soon set in, and that we are to have several snow storms, even greater than that which we have had. As we write there are strong indications of a change in the temperature, and every sign that his prediction will present, that no dependence can be placed in it, and we are better. Meantime we must confess we would have no storm, which would set the bells jingling and tinkling val. People may talk as much as they like about the pleasures of spring, and summer and autumn, but after all what are they to winter, with all its social enjoy-ments, its fireside scenes, and all the home feelings which it revives? And what if it brings with it the ley paralyzes the powers of nature herself—it is the season when the flowers of the domestic circle are cultivated. But it is useless to eulogize winter; Cowper and Thompson have already done that for us, and we would refer any who feel inclined to argue the subject to them.

The celebration of the carnival was unfortunately marred by a few incidents of an unpleasant character, resulting principally from the reprehensible practice of snow balling. It appears that a woman named Brown while riding in one of the Dry Dock sleighs, was struck by a piece of ice thrown by some rowdy from the street.

Mrs Brown was seriously injured, being cut severely on the forehead, so that the blood flowed profusely was taken to a drug store by an officer, where her wounds were dressed. Her friends were sent for, and they conveyed her to her residence in the Fourteenth

who were out on a day's sleighing, amused themselves by hurling masses of snow and ice at the passers by, Captain Speight, observing one of them to be quite act in this dangerous amusement, arrested him and had him taken before Justice Osborn, who held him to bail to appear before him this morning. He gave his name as Peter Molle:

Several others were arrested for the same offence, and

MAYOR'S OFFICE, NEW YORK, Jan, 26, 1856. C. FARBRICOTTI, Vice Consul of Sardinis-

SIR-On the 19th of December, 1854, the Sardinian frigate, Des Geneys, commanded by the Chevalier Mantica, sailed from Genoa for this port, having on board over sixty persons, intended to be landed on arrival, who are represented by competent authority, had been in prison in Turin or elsewhere. There is no doubt that the emigrants alluded to are intended to b cast upon our shores, as others have been under similar almshouses, to become a pest or burden upon this hor Chief Magistrate of this city, to inform you, the repre-sentative of the Sardinian government here, that if the sentative of the Sardinian government here, that if the representations in this case are true these outcasts from your country shall not be permitted a landing at this port; and it is the object of this letter to advise you, as you will probably have immediate communication with the commander of the frigate, that I propose to institute a rigid inquiry on board of the vessel as to the past life and present circumstances and condition of each of these persons before they can come on shore; and all who have been convicts or paupers, or whom it is reasonable to suppose will be dangerous citizens, will be excluded entirely, and for the remainder bonds must be given that they will not become a charge upon this country.

untry. Upon the arrival of the Des Geneys I should be pleased o confer with you or the commander as to the mode enducting the proposed examination. Very respectfully, FERNANDO WOOD, Mayor.

THE RECENT PRESENTMENT OF THE GRAND JURY. The indictments found by the last Grand Jury of the for publication. The presentment, it will be rec included all the gambling houses, the numerous liquor selling shops, and the houses of prostitution of the mo tropolis. What a list for public gase! This present ment was in general terms, but from what has appeared in print and in conversation, indictments have been found to back up the more vague return as published

last Saturday.

The Grand Jury had Mayor Wood, several of the police a number of merchants, clerks, &c., &c., before them in relation to the gambling houses of the city. Mayor Wood gave the jurors all the aid and advice in his power; wood gave the jurors all the aid and advice in his power, the police, many of whom seemed fully and peculiarly posted up on the subject, aided, after a fashion, in the calling up of several merchants, merchants' clerks, and others, as witnesses respecting the locale of the leasing tashionable gambling houses, the names of parties visit-ing them, the amounts lost, and a variety of other in-formation, which caused the jurors to open their eyes very wide and take full notes of what they heard. The evidence is considered very curious, very useful and very instructive to the present generation in the present hard times.

rery instructive to the present generation in the present hard times.

The testimony thus gathered led to indictments, and the reason why they have not been published is that the Grand Jury desired all the witnesses examined by them to be held to ball to appear in court when wasted—that was the point with them, to be on hand when wanted. The process of holding these gentlemen to ball is now going on, and when complete the record will be made sublice.

public.
What was done with the houses of prostitution and liquor shops we are not yet informed.

Brooklyn City News. FIRE—A DWILLING, Two STABLES AND FOUR HORSES DE-

ernerno.-Yesterday morning, about 2 o'clock, a five broke out in a stable on Pacific street, between Smith and Hoyt. The flames spread to an adjoining stable and to a dwelling house, all of which were burnet down and to a swelling house, all of which were burned down the stables were owned by J. C. Shephera and occupied by John Douly and Peter Brachin. Four valuable horses, two carriages and several sleighs, belonging to the occupants, were consumed in the Sames, not either andign the most aircnious efforts were made to extricate the animals. The dwelling house was owned by F. H. Brach, and occupied by A. De La Flechelle. The goods and turniture were saved in a damaged condition. Love amounts to \$1,000, insured. The loss on the stables amounts to \$1,000, insured for \$1,000. On the dwelling house, about \$1,000, insured for \$1,000. The fire was the work of an incondiary. The same place had been set on fire a week previous to last Monday night. AFFA RS IN ALBANY.

Important Concerning Banks and Joint Stock Companies. BILL TO ESTABLISH CONCILIATION COURTS.

PROGRESS OF THE TEMPERANCE BILL.

Our Albany Correspondence,

&c., &c.,

NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

ALBANY, Jan. 26, 1855. HENONSTRANCES, ETC.

Mr. Bishop presented a remonstrance against the law restraining Banks of discount from acting as Savinga'

Mr. Brooks presented a petition of the Mutual and

Mr. Brooks presented a petition of the Mutual and Merchants' Insurance Companies, of New York, for amendments to their charters.

Mr. Munros, favorably, to incorporate trustees of the fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of deceased clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

Mr. Bradvord, favorably, to appoint commissioners to examine into the treatment, condition and number of the insane in almshouses, poor houses, pentientiaries, &c., in the State.

PROBLETTIAN BANKS DIRECTIONED ON SURPLUS CAPITAL.

Mr. HUTCHINS infroduced a bill to prevent banks and banking associations from discounting on their surplus funds, which contains the follewing provisions:—

Sec. 1. It shall not be lawful for any bank or banking association to discount, either directly or indirectly, on their surplus funds.

Sec. 2. Each and every bank and banking association to discount, either directly or indirectly, on

sec. 1 It shall not be set up to the directly or indirectly, on their surplus funds.

Sec. 2. Each and every bank and banking association within this State shall divide among their stockholders, at least once in each year, all their surplus funds amounting to over ten per cent on their capital.

BELATIVE TO BANK NOTES.

Mr. FIELD introduced the following bill:

Sec. 1. It shall not be lawful for any person or corporation to purchase or in any manner receive any bank bill issued by any bank of this State, (unless the said bank shall have failed to redeem its notes according to law, and within the time prescribed by law,) at a greater rate of discount than a quarter of one per cent.

bill is made payable, in the manner now prescribed by law.

Sec. 3. Every person or corporation who shall violate any of the provisions of this act, shall forfeit for each and every offence, the sum of \$5,000, to be recovered with costs of suit in the name, and for the use of any person who shall sue for the same, and prosecute such suit to judgment, in any court having cognizance thereof.

Sec. 4. The act to take effect on the first of March peat.

INFORTANT TO JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Mr. HUTCHINS introduced the following bill, to provide or the limiting of certificates of stock by joint stock com-

Mr. HUTCHINS INTRODUCED the following bill, to provide for the lawing of certificates of stock by joint stock companies—
Section I. It shall be unlawful for the officors, directors, or any one connected with a joint stock company, to issue certificates of stock to any one but actual subscribers therefor, or to any greater amount than for moneys actually paid in and invested in the business of said company, or to issue bonds for the purpose of paying dividends on stock.

Sec. 2. All certificates of stock, and all bonds issued by any joint stock company, shall be countersigned by, and registered with the clerk of the county in which said company shall have its principal office.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of every joint stock company, through its ascretary, to furnish to the county clerk of the county wherein shall be located its principal office, auitable books for registering its certificates of stocks and bonds.

Sec. 4. The compensation to be allowed to the county clerk for the performance of this extra duty shall be fixed by the supervisors of this extra duty shall be fixed by the supervisors of this extra duty shall be fixed by the supervisors of this extra duty shall be fixed by the supervisors of this extra duty shall be fixed by the supervisors of this extra duty shall be fixed by the supervisors of this extra duty shall be fixed by the supervisors of this extra duty shall be fixed by the supervisors of this extra duty shall be fixed by them from the funds of the country.

Sec. 5. The issuing of certificates of stock or bonds country to the provisions of this ext shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000, nor less than \$400, for each and every such of fence; or by imprisonment not less than six months nor more than three years in the State perion.

Sec. 6. The act to take effect immediately.

Althourson sintroduced a bill sutherizing the city

Sec. 6. The act to take effect immediately.

AUTHORIZED SHOOKEYN TO PURCHASE LANDS.

Mr. HUTCHINSON Introduced a bill sutherizing the city of Brooklyn to purchase certain real estate from the United States government. It empowers the Common Council of the city to purchase the real estate belonging to the general government, lying east of Vanderbilt avenue, at a price and on conditions to be ratified by the majority of all the members of the Common Council at one of its regular meetings. Upon such notification, the Council shall have power to issue city bonds to an amount not exceeding \$500,000, at not over aix per cent, payable as they may deem expedient, provided that the period be not over twenty years from the date of purchase, and that none of the bonds he disposed of under their present value. The annual sum necessary for the payment of instalments of principal and interest shall be levied by tax by the Board of Supervisors of Kinge county. The faith and property of the city shall be invicably pledged for payment of the amount, principal and interest; and no portion of the money received for the bonds, or of the taxes levied, shall be used for any other purpose than those set forth in the act.

ALBANY, Jan. 26, 1855.

By Mr. VAN ELTEN, appropriating money to complete

By Mr. S. B. Colk, for payment to academies to edu. rate common school teachers.

By Mr. Davison, favorably on the bill to repeal the act prohibiting the circulation of foreign notes under five

dollars.

Bills were reported by Mr. Kady to apply the act for the dissolution of manufacturing companies to woollen

mills.

Bills were passed appropriating the revenues of the United States Deposit Fund, &c.

To smend the charter of Bushwick and Newtown Bridge. NOTICES OF BILLS.

Bills were noticed by Mr. Jimmerson, relative to Ham-lion square, New York.

By Mr. Edwards, reducing all moneyed transactions to

he federal currency.

By Mr. Davinson, for the incorporation of companies or the navigation of the lakes and rivers.

Mr. F. W. PALNER, to dispose of the Quarantine on Staten Island, &c.

Also, to amend the Revised Statutes in relation to the collection of demands against ships and vessels.

Mr. Baldwin, for the relief of Edson Bishop.

Also, for the relief of the representatives of Henry Baker, decased.

Also, for the rener of the representative of the Raker, deceased.

Also, for the relief of Biram Allen.

Mr. J. A. Serru, to amend the charter of the Ogdensburg and Clinton road.

Language of the relief of certain settlers on Indian lands in the town of Lenox and Vernon.

Mr. Blanza, to prevent the sale of unwholesome or impure milk.

Mr. Arres brought in a bill to build a bridge over the

Mr. Harm, to prevent the sale of unwholesome or impure milk.

Mr. Atten brought in a bill to build a bridge over the Harlem river at King's Bridge.

Mr. Blancurous reported a bill to provide for certain expenses of the government.

Collection or intrastic adaltor sures and versical Mr. F.W. Palmer, from the Committee on Commerce and Navigation, reported favorably the bill to amend the 5th title of chapter 8, part 3 of the revised statutes, entitled—"of proceedings for the collection of demands against ships and vessels." The bill amends the above in its several sections, so that they read as follows:—

Sec. 1. Whenever a debt amounting to \$50 or upwards shall be contracted by the master, owner or his agent, builder, or consignes of any ship or vessel within this Blate, for either of the following purposes, &c.

Sec. 2. When the ship or vessel shall depart from the port at which she was when such Celt was contracted, such debt shall esses to be a lien at the expiration of slivy days after the return of such vessel to such port; and in all cases such lien shall cease immediately after the ressel shall have left such port, unless the person having such lien shall, within the days after such departure, cases to be drawn up specifications of his lien, the correctness of which to be severn to by such person, his agent or his legal representatives, and filed in the Gounty Clerk's office, of the county in which such lien shall be created.

Bec. 3. The County Clerk of every county in this State, shall provide and keep a book which shall be entered siphabetically the names of stch ship or vessel, if she have any, and opposite to them the name of the person cisiming such lien, and the limb shall be entered siphabetically the names of stch ship or vessel, if she have any, and opposite to them the name of the person cisiming such lien, the amount of such lien, and the limb shall be entered siphabetically the names of stch ship or vessel, if she have any and opposite to them the name of the person counts in New York by a Jud

of promise of marriage, assault, battery, false imprisonment, and debt not exceeding \$100. Any person claiming to have cause of action against another for any of the above, may serve upon him a written summons to a speez refeore a court of conciliation—giving five days notice, to be served in the same manner as prescribed by law for a summons to a civil action. The parties appearing art to be received apart from all others, by the court at the best days of the court to hear their statements and to endeavor to reconcile their differences. But when an infant or married woman is one of the parties, the presence of the guardian, bushand, or nearest friend is allowed. Parties may voluntarily appear before the court without any notice. If a reconciliation be had, the fact is to be recorded in a book of records, with or without specifying the terms, as the parties may agree, and shall be signed by both parties, and be the final decision and octermination of the matter in controversy. If a judgment against one of the parties be agreed upon, the fact shall se duly certified by the judge, filed in the County Clerk's office, and enforced as the judgment of a county court. If instead of a reconciliation between the parties, they but agree to aubmit to the decision of the court, the facts shall be so stated on the record, and signed, and the judgment of the court shall have the same effect as provided in the case of a reconciliation. If after service of the notice either party fails to appear, or if no reconciliation or agreement as aforesald is come to when they do appear, the facts shall be fully recorded by the judge. The entries in the book of records, or certified copies the recovery of damages, for any cause of action set forth in the bili, the plaintiff shall not recover costs when they do appear, the facts and shall be fully recorded by the judge. The entries is the parties of the facts they set forth, and shall be furnished to either party, upon appar and the plaintiff shall not recover costs, when it appears by th

Mr. STERRINS, that when the House adjourn, it be to this aftermoon. Adopted.
Mr. CHULL, referring to the Judiciary Committee the propriety of amendment to Code of Procedure in relation to issues of law. Adopted.
Mr. EARDS, directing the committee on banks to inquire whether any insurance companies in this State had been doing business illegally. Adopted.
Mr. GIRSSON, that 5,000 extra copies of the Conciliation Court bill be printed. Referred.
Mr. JIRMENGON called up the resolution appointing a committee to visit the Criminal Courts, &c., of New York, as amended by the Senate Lost.
Mr. Parry, making the bill for the Suppression of Intemperance the special order for this afternoon, at a o'clock. Lost.

Mr. Cover, to print 6,000 additional copies of the tem-

are covery to print s, own additional copies of the temperance reports. Referred.

Mr. Eastes called up the resolution enquiring the amount on deposit in the banks of this State, and per centage paid on these deposits. Mr. E. had offered this resolution in order to assertain what security depositors in savings banks have. The resolution was adopted.

The House then adjourned to 4 P. M.

the House time adjourned to 4 l. M.

AFTERNOON BESSION.

The Temperance bill was again taken up and the second section being still before the committee, numerous amendments were proposed, all of which were voted down.

During the debate, Mr. O'Keefe, of New York, made a vioient attack upon the leaders of the temperance movement, mimicking in voice and manner two of them, Mr. Stebbins, of Monroe and Mr. Leigh, of New York, Mr. LEGUI replied, and the debate took a lively turn. After a leogthened discussion, Mr. Coleman, of New York, moved to strike out the entire section, and addressed the House in support of his motion in a very dignified speech. In the course of his remarks he read a letter from Mayor Wood, in which that gentleman states his belief in the efficacy of the present laws for preventing in temperance if strictly enforced, and says that the number of places kept open on the Sabbath for the saie of liquor in New York, has been reduced by him from 2,000, at the commencement of his administration, to twenty six last funday.

Mr. Lenon thought the closing of these houses was intended for effect upon the Leg slature.

The House adjourned without coming to a vote on Mr. Coleman's motion. So no progress was made.

Our Albany Correspondence.

Our Albany Correspondence.

ALBERT, Jan. 25, 1868.

Senator Clark and the Herald-Seward and the SofteThurlow Weed's Tactics-The Fate of the Abolition Democracy, de.

From the report of the Senate proceedings yestering you will have learned that Mr. Z. Clark brought before the Senate the statement in my last letter regarding the prevailing belief that he had pledged his vote for H. Seward in the approaching election for United States Senator, for the purpose of denying that he had made any distinct pledge upon the subject. His remarks however, were calculated, if not intended to convey the impression that such would really be his course, and I know that they were so regarded by the friends of Mr Seward. Mr. Clark said-"I rise, hr. President, to a question of privilege. I find it stated by a correspon-dent of the paper I hold in my hand—the New Yosa HERALD—that I have pledged myself to vote for Mr. Seward for United States Senator. Now I desire to say that the assertion is untrue. I have not pleiged myself for any candidate, and if I cast my vote as here indisay, too, that in that important election I shall exercise my own free judgment, and vote as I believe the best in-terest of the State demands." The matter has not, however, been confined to the Senate. It has been talked over at the dinner table and in the hotels, and I learn that the correspondent of the junior Seward organ has received instructions to " e down," to use the eloquent language of the Hou. Beag Dickenson in the Senate chamber this morning, "like

thousand of brick," upon your correspondent The secret of all this excitement is well known to me It is feared that my last letter is but the precursor of a regular expens of the plans of the Seward whigs, as a dof their projected grand alliance with the free soil democrate, in a treaty of offence and defence against the Know Nothings and conservatives throughout the State. You may rest assured that a systematic, well planned compact has been entered into with a view of securing the election of Mr. Seward, by means of democratic voies; and the most extraveant promises are held out to the soft shells in order to win them over to the support of that candidate. It will, to be sure be a somewhat comical spectacle to behold the members of a party of which the Affas is the organ—a party that has prided itself upon its bold warfars against the four our party of the support of the four warfars against the four our party of the four of the state of the faction when its political existence is threatened. Are they really blind to the fast that the fate of Mr. Seward is but a small portion of the stakes, and that upon the result of the game really depends the future power of that overwhelming influence centred at the appear of that overwhelming influence centred at the appear of the that the fate of the fate of the spectra, who are obscatingly ranked among those who are "safe for feward," know that the fate of the "peculiar friends of the canals" in this city—the measure of the democratic party is very poured forth their fore for years—depends upon the result of the approaching election? Do they know that Mr. Seward a defeat will hard that faction from power-will heave in their hour of need, it is difficult to understand how any sance democrat can be caught by a shallow an artifice. For they forget the Saratoga convention, and the Syracuse convention, and the result of the election—a whig government, a whig Legislands of the single consistent in the single candidate on the promised occalitor" likest, and bound to the support of regular wing nominations. Be they resumbe the result of the election—a whig government, a whig Legislands—overnment is current funds there will be them regular expens of the plane of the Seward whige, as d of their projected grand alliance with the free soil demo-

court of a single Before Both. Judge Romerell.

The Before Both. Judge Romerell.

The People's City Bank Case.—Course in this case, breach of the Judge will be given in a few days.